

(b) whether Government of Rajasthan has sent in time the account of expenditure incurred by them regarding the above amount to the Centre?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme for development of infrastructural facilities for the judiciary has been in operation since 1993-94. Under this scheme the concerned State Government provides at least 50% matching share against the amount released by the Central Government. Till date, an amount of Rs. 2037.03 lakhs has been released to the Government of Rajasthan. This includes an amount of Rs. 249.47 lakhs released during the year 1999-2000 and Rs. 341.03 lakhs released during 2000-01. The Amount has been released under Demand No. 58, in Major Head 3601 Grants-in-aid to State Governments.

(b) So far, the Government of Rajasthan has furnished Utilisation Certificates to the tune of Rs. 3587.26 lakhs.

Extension to National Commission to Review Constitution

450. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have extended the term of the National Commission to Review the working of the Constitution;

(b) if so, how much extension was given;

(c) whether the Chairman of the Commission had sought extension;

(d) if not, the reasons for extending unilaterally by Government;

(e) the amount, so far, spent on the above Commission;

(f) the work turned out by the above Commission, so far; and

(g) whether Government will take steps to wind up the Commission in view of the Chairman not seeking extension?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Commission's term has been extended upto 31st October, 2001.

(c) and (d) The Commission indicated that it would need some more time for finalizing its report.

(e) Approximately Rs. 90 Lakhs.

(O) The Commission had initially identified 10 areas of immediate contemporary concern, for its examination. A list of the ten areas identified by the Commission is at Statement-I. The Commission has so far finalised and released for public debate seven Consultation Papers & Questionnaires. It proposes to release about twenty more Consultation Papers & Questionnaires in near future. A list of the Consultation Papers released by the Commission is at Statement-II. The Commission has already forwarded copies of the Consultation Papers and Questionnaires to all the recognized National and State Political Parties, Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, all the States & Union Territories, Chambers of Commerce, National Commissions, etc., soliciting their comments and responses.

(g) Does not arise.

Statement—I.

List of areas Identified by the NCRWC for Examination

- (i) Strengthening of the institutions of Parliamentary Democracy; (Working of the Legislature, Executive and Judiciary; their accountability; problems of Administrative, Social and Economic Cost of Political Instability; Exploring the possibilities of stability within the discipline of Parliamentary Democracy).
- (ii) Electoral Reforms; Standards in Political life.
- (iii) Pace of Socio-Economic change and Development under the Constitution.
- (iv) Promoting literacy; generating employment; ensuring social security; alleviation of poverty.
- (v) Union-State Relations.
- (vi) Decentralization and devolution; Empowerment and strengthening of Panchayati Raj Institutions.
- (vii) Enlargement of Fundamental Rights.
- (viii) Effectuation of Fundamental Duties.
- (ix) Effectuation of Directive Principles and Achievement of the Preambulary objectives of the Constitution.
- (x) Legal Control of fiscal and monetary policies; Public Audit mechanism; standards in public life.

Statement—II.*List of Consultation Papers & Questionnaires*

1. Review of the Working of Political Parties specially in relation to Election and Reform Options;
2. Review of Election Law, Processes and Reform Options;
3. Immunity of Legislators — What do the words in respect of anything said or any vote given by him' in article 105(2) signify;
4. Treaty making Power under the Constitution;
5. Liability of the State in Tort;
6. All India Judicial Service; and
7. Efficacy of Public Audit systems in India; C&AG—Reforming the Institution.

Elections through Voter Identity Cards

† 451. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government and Election Commission have received certain suggestions from some of the State Governments to hold all the elections through voter identity cards in future;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the work pertaining to issue of voter identity cards in all the States of the country has been accomplished;
- (d) if so, what are details thereof, State-wise;
- (e) if not, the names of States where such task is yet to be completed; and
- (f) what concrete steps have been taken by Government to review voter's lists in all the States and issue identity cards to all the voters?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Election Commission has informed that it has not received any suggestion from any State Government so far for conducting future elections using photo identity cards only.

(c) to (e) A Statement showing status of progress of the scheme of issuance of photo identity cards to electors in the country is laid on the Table of the House. (*See below*) In this connection, it may be stated that the scheme has so far not

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.